

# CENTENNIAL OF THE REPUBLICS OF ARGENTINA AND MEXICO

## Remarkable Story of Growth of the Two Latin-American Nations and Their Future Possibilities.

By CHARLOTTE M. CONGER.

We Americans are so hypnotized by our own grandeur, by our tremendous accomplishments in civil and military lines since we became a republic; we are so proud of, so in love with, our own history that we are prone to pass over the splendid history of our neighbors, to lose sight of the fact that there are nations, if not republics, on this hemisphere whose civilization and history antedate our own.

Cortez and Pizarro found a civilized people when they made the conquest of Mexico and of Peru, and the cities founded by the Spaniards in South America after its conquest are much older than those that were established in what is now the United States.

Nor were the Latin-Americans far behind us in attaining their independence, for thirty years counts as a day in history, and it was only a few years more than that—four, to be explicit—after the American colonies proclaimed their independence that Argentina and Mexico threw off the Spanish yoke, a move that the Napoleonic wars, which kept Europe for many years in constant turmoil and crippled Spain, made possible.

**Celebrating the Centennial.**  
This year Argentina is celebrating the centennial of her independence by a world's fair at her capital, Buenos Ayres, and Mexico is preparing to commemorate her national birthday on the sixteenth of September in similar fashion.

The history of Argentina differs very little from that of the other South American countries that surround it. It was first under Portuguese, then under Spanish sovereignty, and was regarded, when ruled by these two Latin nations, as the private property of their kings to be exploited for their benefit. It was oppressed by the officials sent out to govern it, and taxed to the utmost to increase the royal revenue, even the freight sent to the colony and the goods exported from there being levied upon to swell the royal exchequer, and the wishes and rights of the people were deliberately disregarded.

Everything that could be done was done to discourage commerce, for the royal spendthrifts on the other side imagined that to mine and ship gold and silver to them was sufficient occupation for their subjects, or slaves, rather, in America. The king took no concern in the fate of the country so long as his private coffers were filled with gold, and the Cadiz monopolists saw to it that he never had cause to complain in this regard, and thus managed, by persuading the government to enact laws restricting the commerce, to control the rich markets of South America, of which Buenos Ayres was one of the richest.

**Commerce Springs Up.**  
But the Spanish officials sent out to govern the colonies were lax and venal, their hands always extended for bribes. Argentina, therefore, through the dishonesty and corruption of the royal agents, was enabled to start and carry on an extensive commerce, and through shipping her hides, hair, valuable drugs, and agricultural products, to say nothing of her gold and silver, amassed great wealth which enabled her, when opportunity offered, to strike the blow against Spain which resulted in her independence.

The necessary military instruction and experience the Argentines obtained through the attempted invasion of the country by England in 1806. Threatened by Napoleon with exclusion from Europe, Great Britain determined to capture the Cape in 1806, 1,500 troops a few miles below Buenos Ayres from the fleet, commanded by Admiral Bopha, which had anchored in the estuary.

These 1,500 troops in their brave array made a formidable showing, and the Spanish viceroy offered no resistance whatever to the landing force, but a Spanish commission, got together a small army of regulars, a thousand all told, and, augmenting this force by thousands of eager volunteers, finally succeeded, after some fighting, in repelling the enemy from the country. This victory, following upon the heels of their desertion by the Spanish viceroy, so fired the pride of the Argentines that they were keen for more fighting.

**Seeds of Revolution.**  
The English had hardly quitted the country than the victors declared the viceroy a coward, installed the royal audience in his place, and the seeds of the revolution were sown. A second attempt of the British a few months later, when they returned with reinforcements, was again thwarted, and, after losing a fourth of their army, they abandoned the country forever.

Necessity and the English had taught the Argentines to fight, and from the time of the invasion of the British until their independence was secured they continued to have pride in their military prowess—have it still, in fact, and maintain a standing army large enough to maintain peace at home and keep invaders at bay, to say nothing of the militia, which is organized somewhat after the model of the United States.

The crisis in Spain of 1808, when Napoleon's armies were sweeping the country from one end to the other and there was bitter dispute over the succession of Charles IV, who had abdicated, projected the revolution in Spain's rich colony of Argentina. It was the same story that had been enacted in North America, where the French and Indian wars had taught the colonists how to fight, which resulted in their independence, revealed to them their military skill, and prepared them for the revolution; so in Argentina the invasion of the English had shown its people that they were capable of fighting their own battles, and, feeling this, the Creoles, who had been so long disregarded and unrecognized and imposed upon by their home government, seized the first opportunity of wresting the control from the hands of the Spaniards, or "Goths," which opprobrious name was applied to the Spanish residents of Argentina.

**Date of Independence.**  
On May 25, 1810, a great armed force met in the plaza of Buenos Ayres to enforce the government the Creoles had arranged and to protect the officials they had appointed, and from that time dates Argentina's independence. The story of how this independence was gained, the devotion of the revolutionists to their cause, and their bravery, the gallantry of the gaucho cavalry, the inspired leadership

of San Martin and his renunciation when his work was done, makes interesting reading, but there is no space here even for the most cursory review of that great struggle which terminated with the battle of Chacabuco, of which that picturesque soldier of fortune, Bernardo O'Higgins, was the hero. Nor have we anything to do with the civil wars that lasted from 1812 until 1829.

It is modern Argentina that interests us; modern Argentina which occupies almost as great a place in the Southern continent as the United States does in the Northern. It is a wonderful country, this great South American republic, rich in developed and undeveloped resources, maintaining a great commerce, and increasing every day its wealth and importance.

**Delegations Is Sent.**  
The United States has sent a delegation to represent it at the exposition, which is headed by our former Ambassador to France, Henry White, and which includes Gen. Leonard Wood, both of whom are accomplished and brilliant men and sagacious diplomats, who will confirm and increase the friendly feeling inspired by the visit of Secretary Root in 1906.

The present minister from this country to Argentina is Charles Sherrill, who was appointed in 1906, and who came with the idea of the exposition and the international congress in mind. Mr. Sherrill is an alumnus of Harvard, a man of pleasant manners and agreeable address, and makes a most acceptable representative of this government at Buenos Ayres at an important moment.

Mr. Portela, the able diplomatist who has represented Argentina in the United States for the past few years, was recalled to add in making the exposition a success, but his place has been filled by Mr. Villegas, who comes to us direct from Portugal, and with the honors he received there, whether he was dispatched something more than a year ago to negotiate a commercial treaty with that government.

The Mexican exposition will not be inaugurated until September 15, which day corresponds to our July 4. The father of Mexican independence was a priest, Miguel Hidalgo, who had charge of the parish of Dolores, and was on the general act of the place, a universal genius, the master of many arts which brought him in contact with the people, whose love, respect, gratitude, and support he won so completely that when he determined to head an uprising against the Spanish rule he had an immediate and large following. Hidalgo's friend and lieutenant was Narciso Alencarte, a man of noble family and military training, whom the magnetic priest had converted to his

way of thinking and who followed his fortunes until both men met their death. Alencarte succeeded in gaining the adherence of two officers in his own regiment—Aldama and Abasolo—and these four, Hidalgo, Alencarte, Aldama, and Abasolo, the patriotic priest and the first revolutionary movement that resulted ultimately in the independence of Mexico.

**Uprising at Queretaro.**  
The story of the first blow struck in an interesting one. The revolutionary clubs masqueraded as literary gatherings, but the true character of a certain one at Queretaro being discovered, it was raided and a number of its members imprisoned. News of the misfortune of these associates reached Hidalgo on September 18, shortly after midnight, when, realizing that it was either imprisonment and death or fight, the priest jumped from his bed and gathering about him what following he could, assaulted the prison, liberated the prisoners, and, arming them with swords, led them to the church over which he presided. There he celebrated mass, meantime revealing his plans to all of the men who came to partake of it, not one of whom but joined his company to fight for their independence and the liberation of Mexico.

Hidalgo and his company were joined by Alencarte's regiment, and the combined force of Hidalgo's men and Alencarte's regiment, the banner under which they hoped to march to victory was a picture of the Virgin of Guadalupe, which has given it its name. It is a fit setting for the great exposition now being held there and for the fourth Pan-American Congress, which meets there this year.

**Four Are Executed.**  
The patriot priest was shot in front of the prison where he had been confined on May 30, 1811, less than a year from the day when he led the first charge of the revolution on the prison at Dolores. Hidalgo and two other officers, Aldama and Jimenez, who were apprehended at the same time, were executed later in the day, and the heads of the four patriots, placed on pikes, were displayed at the four corners of the castle of Guanajuato, in Guanajuato, but years afterward, when the freedom they had fought for had become a glorious fact, these poor heads were brought to the capital and reverently buried beneath the altar de los Reyes in the great cathedral.

The history of Mexico, the story of the priest's conquest by Cortes, the long misrule of the Spaniards, and then the revolution, is one long tale of romance, of the annunciation scene, or from the wells of the flower decorations.

They had the true instinct of artists, these hermits of old, however, and their coloring is a marvel to the more enlightened of to-day. It was exceedingly rich, but never glaring, and always in accord with some reason found in the text. Perhaps the most striking fact in the wonderful way in which they used the pen, was the complete lack of the library have illuminated rubrics and initials throughout, and the original bindings were usually oak boards covered with ornamental embossed calf. A later edition of the work, "De Relacion de Los Indios," by Senor Don Antonio de Mendoza, a Spanish narrative reciting the rites and ceremonies of the Indians of Mechuacan province, Mexico. The illustrations in this are somewhat crude and lack the good taste of the original.

It must have been difficult for the artist to conceive the forms and faces of his subjects, for they certainly are unlike any Indians to be seen in this generation, at least.

**Treaties in Manuscript.**  
There are a number of manuscript treaties on moral and philosophical subjects. The quaintest of these is called "New England's Tears for Old England's Feares," 1641. The poems of Anne Bradstreet, the "Mad Woman of Salem," who was responsible for much of the witchcraft agitation, are here. A copy is deposited of Lord Baltimore's "Gaudia Poetica."

On exhibition in the upper hall is the first and second editions of the Indian Bible, prepared by the Indian apostle, John Eliot. In this same class is Smith's map of Virginia and the manuscript of his "Historie of Virginia." By purchase the records and papers of the London Company of Virginia have been acquired.

**One Rare Bible.**  
An illuminated thirteenth century Bible and a few books of "Hours" make up the collection antedating the printing press. The "Rommische Geiden Missal," 1477, is in the collection. It is on parchment, of course, and the work is so faithfully done that the lines the monks drew to space their letters can be faintly discerned to-day. The reflection of the Greek and Latin studies of these fathers is evinced in the strange satyr-like creatures that are hidden everywhere in the illumination, peer out from the lily cup

but there is no more picturesque incident in it from cover to cover than the story of the priest, Hidalgo, whose devotion, whose high ideals, and self-abnegation recall the crusaders on their holy quest, and when the great exposition is inaugurated on the sixteenth of next September a fitting monument should be dedicated to the poor priest of Dolores, although his best, his greatest monument will ever be Mexico, free.

**Republic Is Established.**  
The last victory was deposed from office in 1821, then followed the reign of turbulence, the establishment of the Republic Mexicana, and various presidents and dictators until the end and tragic reign of Maximilian, another revolution, and then the election of the present great ruler, Porfirio Diaz, whose administration of more than a quarter of a century has been the most peaceful and progressive Mexico has ever known. In these long years of Diaz's reign he has looked to the future, and anticipating the time when he must lay aside the cares of office, has educated a group of young men to see things from his point of view, so that among his successors, when this wise and good old man is forced to give up the duties and cares of his office, there will be no difficulty in finding a successor adequate to carrying on his work.

The exposable City of Mexico next fall will attract many Americans, for there is an immense amount of capital invested in Mexico, the investors of which make regular pilgrimages there to look after the confirmed traveler.

Our present Ambassador to the land of Montezuma is Henry Lane Wilson, former American Minister to Brussels, who was appointed to this post early last spring. Mr. Wilson acted as American Minister to Chile for a number of years, and during that period not only mastered the Spanish language, but became acquainted with the Spanish character, so that the success and popularity he has attained there are not to be wondered at. Mr. Wilson is also a man of means and of broad social experience, and in his social duties has a capable and graceful coadjutor in Mrs. Wilson, who has converted her husband's embassy into a veritable home, so that the Americans who are appointed to this post next fall will be sure of one place where they will receive an American welcome and be at home among their own.

**Will Tour Delaware.**  
Local Colored Men Join Dr. Booker T. Washington.

A party of representative colored men of this city will leave this morning for Wilmington, Del., to join Dr. Booker T. Washington for a tour of the State.

The party will include William T. Vermon, Register of the Treasury; Judge Robert H. Terrell, of the Municipal Court; Ralph W. Tyler, Auditor for the Navy Department; Dr. John R. Francis, Prof. Kelly Miller and Prof. George W. Thompson, of Howard University; R. W. McKim, president of the National Negro Press Association, and Whitfield McKinlay, a well-known real estate man of this city.

A big meeting will be held this afternoon in Wilmington, at which Gov. Pennewill is to preside. The State's itinerary will include the towns of Newark, Newcastle, Georgetown, Milford, Dover, Clayton, and Middletown, returning to the Capital by a banquet tendered by the Colored Business Men's League of that city.

They are in two volumes, and cover the period between 1619 and 1624. Many entries of historical value are found in these records, and surely much historical and colonial data could be gleaned from their pages, if one only had the time and patience to study out the flourishing characters of Master Carl Cunningham, secretary of the company.

Notice is made here of the sending of the women to Virginia for the planters to redeem as wives, and a resolution is entered "to send poor people to Virginia as servants and redemptioners." Another entry is to that to allow two children of an apothecary to travel alone to Virginia, passage free.

**Birth of American Liberty.**  
The first Quarter Court of the company for Virginia was held at Sir Thomas Smith's house, in Philpott lane, on April 28, 1619. Among those present were the "Earls of Southampton and Warwick, the Lords Cavendish and Gage, and Gen. Cecil." On June 12, 1621, a resolution was passed which marked the real birth of American liberty. It called a council of state to meet four times a year in Virginia, and to hold quarterly sessions of a week together. This council was composed of planters and the governors and officials of the colony.

This was truly the beginning of American legislative freedom. This Quarter Court took care of the colony. Reports were made of patents granted, of tracts of land, and here the governor of Virginia were elected. Until this power of the company was taken by royal jealousy, it is well known that the colony was governed justly and wisely.

Of especial value is the correspondence between Washington and Rochambeau and the papers relating to Gen. Sullivan's Indian expedition, his (Washington's) diary kept during the French and Indian war, and the Braddock campaign, and the papers and documents which

illustrate the methods of obtaining information during the Revolutionary period.

**Many Loyalist Papers.**  
Perhaps the next in importance is the Smithsonian collection, which was placed in charge of the Library in 1882. The collection of loyalist papers in this group are not duplicated anywhere in the United States. The account of the proceedings of the loyalist commissioners all thirty-four volumes with testimonies taken at Lincoln Inn Fields and other points in America and Canada concerning the losses and services of American loyalists. In this same collection are fifty-four volumes of bills, accounts, and inventories which have a historical value in illustrating the history of prices in England from 1632 to 1732.

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Now what shall be the verse tonight, Oh, comrades of my heart? Say, shall it be a song of gloe When time has come to part? Or shall there be a sadder note That we can never forget? For on each face I catch a trace Of sorrow and regret.

But let us take it as it comes, The laughter, then the sigh, We must be gay before we say Our final, fond "good-by." And if you'll take us, all in all, You'll find that as a rule A happier set you never have met Than the girls of Normal School.

Our senior year has brought success Through happiness and sorrow; One empty place—but her sweet face Shall greet us too the morrow. The days have passed, the work is o'er, We labored hard and long; And hand in hand we take the stand To make our future strong.

Do you remember nineteen-eight When first we faced the fret? Quite unawares we climbed the stairs To aspirations higher. For two years now we've trod the path That leads up to the stars; With joy that's real we're bound to feed The lifting of the bars.

Now up at dear old Normal School We start to work in line; The hushed tones in breathless run At fifteen after nine. We seniors are a joy crowd, We laugh and joke and sing Or start the reel with the reel and beat, Or do the Highland Fling!

Since we arrived at Normal School It's been our task each day, To puff and blow, and "E. A. O." And do the things they say. We are compelled to bea like bees And tune our voices to the battle cry, "I can't tell you what we don't do When music hour begins!"

We understand the drawing class; Our attitude's all right; And longer and longer the facts, and so Our sketches are a sight! We did not care for swirling curves In paint or line of time; But "for a" that, the new fall hat Made just the right design.

No wonder that you smile a bit, Yet I would have you know We really need so had a lot As Normal classes go. Although we're often stupid, I don't know how to say; Without a boast, let's give the toast; "To the health of 1910!"

Now when the battle calls to us To put aside this care, With strength attained and courage gained We play the game quite fair. Say, if, perchance, we're sent to teach Within "Mansfield" walls, The children there, so sweet and fair, Will thank the spacious hall.

The Sexton may be our abode, And children new and then; The curves of E. I'd like to see In autumn or in May. To be quite frank, I think my back Into the Beret School, Will live a life devoid of art, Built on the golden rule.

My comrades who are here tonight, We'll all agree with me; We'd never rise up to the skies Without our faculty. Just as I plan to take their course Around a central sun, We all depend on the trend Of the "seventeen" in 'em.

Not somewhere said, "Men come, men go," But Normal stays forever. And all will raise their hearts in praise Of the time they cannot sever. So take a farewell glimpse tonight Of those you'll see no more In Normal's hall, in spring or fall, For Normal days are o'er.

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MISS BOWMAN J. NOAH.

XIII.  
Among the crowd we love so well  
Are girls of every type;  
With eyes of blue, with brown eyes, too,  
And lips like cherries ripe.  
With golden hair and hair of brown,  
With charm and wit and grace;  
And friendship true looks out to you  
From every single face.

XIV.  
We've all assembled here tonight,  
The last time, so it seems,  
(For it's been said we'll all be wed  
Ere many seasons pass)  
Do we intend to leave hard  
And to ourselves be true?  
With that is said we must do right  
So there'll be naught to grieve.

XV.  
How long are we to teach, I pray,  
Oh comrades of my class?  
(For it's been said we'll all be wed  
Ere many seasons pass)  
Do we intend to leave hard  
And to ourselves be true?  
With that is said we must do right  
So there'll be naught to grieve.

XVI.  
Let's be a credit to our school,  
Our faculty, our friends,  
Accept the best and take the rest  
As heaven always sends.  
And girls—about our salaries—  
Don't let's let them all away;  
To be quite frank, I think my back  
Is where they ought to stay.

XVII.  
When all the days have sped along  
And life begins to wane,  
Through misty years we'll view those years  
Bound by the daily chain.  
Do not forget this night, my friends,  
And may my heart and pen  
Pay tribute long in verse and song  
To the class of 1910.

BOWMAN J. NOAH.

June 2, 1910.

Illustrate the methods of obtaining information during the Revolutionary period.

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## OUTINGS FOR POOR

Plea by Summer Committee of Associated Charities.

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SOLICITED

Every Year Sees an Increase in Number of Deserving Women, Children, Invalids, and Aged Persons Who Enjoy Fresh-Air Fund Provided by Charitable People.

The summer sun, with its heavy rays of heat, accompanied by humid and debilitating effects, is bearing down again upon the homes of the poor and the unfortunate in the by-ways and alleys of the National Capital.

Humanity—yes, the same poor who were ill-fed and ill-clothed and shivering last winter—are sweating under the burden of this terrible heat. The poor cannot steal away from these distressing conditions without help. To keep the spark of life burning steadily, to foster militant citizenship among such surroundings, a breath of fresh air now and then for the poor, was another and another necessity. In Washington the summer outings committee of the Associated Charities has made this possible.

Every year the number of women and children, invalids, and aged persons, who participate in the "fresh air" feast of this noble enterprise, is on the increase and Washington's charitable citizens have been well repaid for the cost in the consciousness of the healthier and happier citizenship of their less fortunate sisters and brothers.

**Committee Kept Busy.**  
The summer outings committee has been busy making its plans for the present year since the closing of last summer's work. Systematic and persistent work is necessary in this particular branch of the Associated Charities' endeavor.

During the winter months the visiting agents of the organization, in connection with their other duties, pick out the mothers and children who come under their observation whom they deem the most needy and the most helpless.

These names and recommendations are carefully filed at the office of the Associated Charities, and when the summer comes with its depressing heat these poor sufferers are given outings at the summer camps—Camp Good Will, or Camp Pleasant.

It takes money and time and men and women to do it. Devoted men and women are the representatives of the summer outings committee at the camps, and members of the committee, among whom are bankers, lawyers, editors, and merchants, spend many an afternoon among the children of the poor, aiding, by their personal efforts, in making the camps "really and truly" happy grounds.

Washington has always supported the work of the summer outings committee very generously, and the financial end of the institution is in good hands. Sometimes, of course, people forget to do what they would like to do for such a cause—put off sending in their mite until some other day. So the best way for those interested in this project is to send your contribution before you leave for your summer mountain home or the seashore resort. Then your own comfort and pleasure will not be lessened by the consciousness of having failed to do your duty to the less fortunate people who have been compelled to stay at home.

**Contributions Acknowledged.**  
The summer outings committee of the Associated Charities acknowledges, through its treasurer, Andrew Parker, the following contributions to Camp Good Will:

Naam Chapter, No. 5, O. E. S., \$5; division of general accounts